

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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S E C R E T USNATO 6171

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: WORKING GROUP STUDIES OF AIR MANPOWER

REF: A) USNATO 6045; B) USNATO 6054

1. AT NOVEMBER 5 MEETING, WG CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SPC QUESTIONS ON NON-INCREASE OF AIR MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES. UK REP (GERAHTY) INTRODUCED DETAILED EDITORIAL CHANGES.

2. TURKISH REP (GUR) AGAIN ARGUED AT GREAT LENGTH THAT NON-INCREASE ON AIR MANPOWER IN THE NGA COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE FLANKS. HIS MAIN CONCERN WAS THAT IF AIR MANPOWER IS LIMITED IN ANY WAY IN MBFR SOVIETS COULD ARGUE IN FUTURE THAT INCREASE OR IMPROVEMENT OF AIR FORCES IN FLANK COUNTRIES WAS CIRCUMVENTION OF MBFR AGREEMENT. ACTING CHAIRMAN (SMITH) AND OTHER REPS ATTEMPTED TO REASSURE TURKISH REP ON THIS POINT, BUT TURKISH REP WOULD NOT BUDGE. TURKISH REP PROPOSED CHANGING RESPONSE TO SPC QUESTION ON FLANKS (REF B) TO MAKE CLEAR WG BELIEVES NON-INCREASE ON AIR MANPOWER "FOR A LIMITED TIME" WOULD NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT SECURITY OF FLANK
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STATES. OTHER REPS OBJECTED TO THIS FORMULATION BUT ACCEPTED INSERTION OF "BETWEEN PHASES" INSTEAD OF "FOR A LIMITED TIME". ACTING CHAIRMAN COMMENTED TO OTHER MEMBERS AFTER MEETING THAT TURKISH TENACITY ON THIS POINT MAY COMPLICATE WG STUDIES ON

COMMON CEILING AND REDUCTIONS.

3. ACTING CHAIRMAN, URGED WG MEMBERS TO TRANSMIT REVISED RESPONSES TO SPC OR AT LEAST TO ACCEPT PAPER AD REFERENDUM AND SEEK EARLY CLEARANCE. FRG REP (DZIALAS), WHO INTRODUCED ONLY TWO CHANGES, SAID HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT PAPER BEFORE NEXT WG MEETING, NOVEMBER 12. HE SAID ALL GUIDANCE ON AIR MANPOWER ISSUES HAD TO BE CLEARED AT HIGH LEVEL IN BONN AND HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO ALLOW TIME FOR THOROUGH REVIEW OF WG PAPER IN HIS CAPITAL. HE PERSONALLY SAW NO PROBLEMS IN REVISIONS INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 5 AND THOUGHT HE COULD PROBABLY APPROVE PAPER NOVEMBER 12. ACTING CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED HE MIGHT REPORT ORALLY TO SPC ON WG PROGRESS AND CONTENTS OF PAPER. FRG REP SAID HE COULD NOT GO ALONG WITH THIS SUGGESTION UNTIL PAPER HAD BEEN APPROVED IN BONN.

4. U.S. REP (MCCORMACK) RAISED WG EXAMINATION OF INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN COMMON CEILING WITHOUT REQUIRED REDUCTIONS. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT PRELIMINARY WG PAPER FAIRLY WELL COVERED THIS ISSUE AND THAT WG COULD REPORT BRIEFLY TO SPC THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER IN COMMON CEILING WITHOUT PREJUDICING THE QUESTION OF REDUCTIONS OR THE SUB-CEILING ISSUE. SOME REPS SAID WG REPORT ON THIS PROPOSAL MIGHT ALSO POINT UP VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH AIR MANPOWER COULD BE INCLUDED IN COMMON CEILING IN ORDER TO BRING ALL OPTIONS TO SPC'S ATTENTION. WG AGREED THAT STAFF COULD CIRCULATE TO CAPITALS FOR CLEARANCE BRIEF RESPONSES TO SPC ON U.S. PROPOSAL.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE REVISED RESPONSES TO SPC QUESTIONS ON NON-INCREASE DO NOT CHANGE THRUST OF PAPER REPORTED REF B. WE WILL REPORT REVISED RESPONSES ON NON-INCREASE AND DRAFT ON INCLUSION IN COMMON CEILING BY SEPTELS AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE THEM FROM STAFF GROUP.
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